

## Science Toolkit: Grade 7 Objective 6.B.1.b

Student Handout: Science: Grade 7 Objective 6.B.1.b

Standard 6.0 Environmental Science

Topic B. Environmental Issues

Indicator 1. Recognize and describe that environmental changes can have local, regional, and global consequences.

Objective b. Identify and describe that different individual people or groups of people are affected by an issue in different ways.

Selected Response (SR) Item

Question

Use the information below to answer the following:

### Zebra Mussels

Zebra mussels have been found in the Chesapeake Bay. These small, non-native mussels sometimes cause economic, environmental, and ecological problems. They block the water intake pipes of industrial plants and limit the ability of the plants to generate power, provide drinking water, or treat sewage. The mussel populations grow rapidly and spread to other bodies of water by attaching to boats and equipment below the surface of the water. They consume large amounts of the algae in the water and may decrease the oxygen level of the water. Many beaches are also littered with the sharp shells of decaying zebra mussels.



Which outcome of the increase in the population of zebra mussels would most affect fishermen in Maryland?

- A. sharp shells from zebra mussels littering the beaches
- B. zebra mussels blocking power plant intake tubes
- C. increased odor from decaying zebra mussels
- D. decreased oxygen levels in the waterways

Correct Answer

D. decreased oxygen levels in the waterways

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